

IFW

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on July 23, 2004.


Vickie D. Wall

Applicant : Carlos Duarte, et al.
Application No. : 10/622,198
Filed : July 18, 2003
Title : SLIDE HINGE FOR SPA COVER
Grp./Div. : 3676
Examiner : Michael J. Kyle
Docket No. : 50229/MEG/F314

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
37 CFR § 1.97(b)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Post Office Box 7068
Pasadena, CA 91109-7068
July 23, 2004

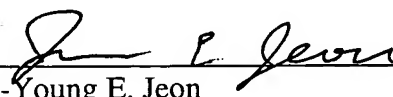
Commissioner:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, and in accordance with the provisions in the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure §§ 609 and 707.05(b), enclosed is FORM PTO/SB/08A/B listing the references that are known to applicant. Copies of references listed under "FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS" and "OTHER DOCUMENTS" are enclosed. This filing is timely because it is made during one of the periods described in 37 CFR § 1.97(b).

It is respectfully requested that the listed references be considered in the examination of this application and identified on the list of references cited on the patent issuing for this application. Applicant also requests that an initialed copy of FORM PTO/SB/08A/B be entered in the application file and returned to applicant with the next communication from the Office in accordance with MPEP § 609.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

By 
Jun-Young E. Jeon
Reg. No. 43,693
626/795-9900

JEJ/vdw
Enclosures: PTO/SB/08A/B, w/references (12)
VDW PAS533653.1-*07/23/04 10:57 AM



FORM PTO/SB/08A/B (10-01)
Substitute for PTO-1449A/B

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

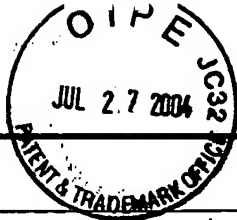
(use as many sheets as necessary)

Attorney Docket Number	50229/MEG/F314
Application Number	10/622,198
Filing Date	July 18, 2003
Applicant(s)	Carlos Duarte, et al.
Group Art Unit	3676
Examiner Name	Michael J. Kyle

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No. ¹	DOCUMENT NUMBER Number - Kind Code ² (If Known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee
		586,476	07-13-1897	Coates
		1,068,391	07-22-1913	Jensen
		1,115,345	10-27-1914	Steuernagel
		1,115,465	10-27-1914	Goddin
		2,376,966	05-29-1945	Ingerman
		2,516,196	07-25-1950	Fowler
		2,551,305	05-01-1951	Tompkins
		2,590,028	03-18-1952	Miller
		2,648,516	08-11-1953	Manetti et al.
		2,689,101	09-14-1954	Dygert
		2,793,387	05-28-1957	Odell
		2,840,847	07-01-1958	Danser
		2,853,352	09-23-1958	Gittins
		3,001,225	09-26-1961	Squire
		3,038,196	06-12-1962	Nyquist
		3,261,051	07-19-1966	Priest
		3,351,975	11-14-1967	Goto
		3,539,239	11-10-1970	Mallonn
		4,076,203	02-28-1978	McDonnell
		4,167,298	09-11-1979	Plattner
		4,223,420	09-23-1980	Yukimoto et al.
		4,383,721	05-17-1983	Knaack et al.
		Des. 278,010	03-19-1985	Ostrander
		4,853,985	08-08-1989	Perry

EXAMINER SIGNATURE	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.pto.gov or MPEP 901.4. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English Language Translation is attached.	



FORM PTO/SB/08A/B (10-01)
Substitute for PTO-1449A/B

Attorney Docket Number

50229/MEG/F314

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Application Number

10/622,198

Filing Date

July 18, 2003

Applicant(s)

Carlos Duarte, et al.

Group Art Unit

3676

Examiner Name

Michael J. Kyle

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No. ¹	DOCUMENT NUMBER Number - Kind Code ² (If Known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee
		4,857,374	08-15-1989	Perry
		4,893,863	01-16-1990	Skonieczny et al.
		4,899,420	02-13-1990	Bye et al.
		4,953,259	09-04-1990	Frye et al.
		4,953,985	09-04-1990	Miller
		4,966,403	10-30-1990	Nordström
		4,991,238	02-12-1991	Forrest
		5,027,473	07-02-1991	Hottmann
		5,048,153	09-17-1991	Wall et al.
		5,050,943	09-24-1991	Barnett
		5,131,102	07-21-1992	Salley et al.
		5,172,969	12-22-1992	Reuter et al.
		5,409,308	04-25-1995	Reuter et al.
		5,471,685	12-05-1995	Cross
		5,517,703	05-21-1996	Ouelette
		5,566,403	10-22-1996	Black et al.
		5,584,081	12-17-1996	Ouelette
		5,634,218	06-03-1997	Ouellete
		5,644,803	07-08-1997	Wilson
		5,689,841	11-25-1997	Black et al.
		5,819,332	10-13-1998	Perry
		5,847,374	12-08-1998	Menconi
		5,896,619	04-27-1999	Koopman
		5,904,411	05-18-1999	Hayakawa

EXAMINER
SIGNATURE

DATE
CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.pto.gov or MPEP 901.4. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English Language Translation is attached.



FORM PTO/SB/08A/B (10-01) Substitute for PTO-1449A/B	Attorney Docket Number	50229/MEG/F314
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)	Application Number	10/622,198
	Filing Date	July 18, 2003
	Applicant(s)	Carlos Duarte, et al.
	Group Art Unit	3676
	Examiner Name	Michael J. Kyle

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No. ¹	DOCUMENT NUMBER Number - Kind Code ² (If Known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee
		5,950,252	09-14-1999	Fettes
		5,974,599	11-02-1999	Tudor
		5,974,600	11-02-1999	Pucci et al.
		5,996,137	12-07-1999	Genova
		6,000,071	12-14-1999	Fettes
		6,000,072	12-14-1999	LaHay
		6,032,305	03-07-2000	Tedrick
		6,158,063	12-12-2000	Tudor
		US 6,195,811 B1	03-06-2001	Dragovic
		US 2002/0050003 A1	05-02-2002	Perry
		US 6,381,766 B1	05-07-2002	Perry
		US 6,393,630 B1	05-28-2002	Tedrick
		US 6,442,799 B1	09-03-2002	Duarte et al.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No. ¹	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENT Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (If Known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	T ⁶ (✓)
		FR 2,089,842	07-01-1972	Stanley-Works G.M.B.H.	
		FR 2,091,715	14-01-1972	Franz Hettich K.G.	✓

OTHER DOCUMENTS		
EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article, title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.
		The Ideal Lift with Installation Instruction for the Ideal Cover Lift; http://www.rhtubs.com/coverlifts/ideal-lift.htm and http://www.rhtubs.com/coverlifts/ideal-lift-instructions.htm ; 7 pages

EXAMINER SIGNATURE	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.pto.gov or MPEP 901.4. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English Language Translation is attached.	



FORM PTO/SB/08A/B (10-01) Substitute for PTO-1449A/B	Attorney Docket Number	50229/MEG/F314
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)	Application Number	10/622,198
	Filing Date	July 18, 2003
	Applicant(s)	Carlos Duarte, et al.
	Group Art Unit	3676
	Examiner Name	Michael J. Kyle

OTHER DOCUMENTS		
EXAMINER INITIALS	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article, title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.
		The Cover Valet with Installation Instructions for the Cover Valet; http://www.rhtubs.com/coverlifts/cover-valet.htm and http://www.rhtubs.com/coverlifts/cover-valet-instructions.htm ; 6 Pages
		Ideal E-Z Lifter with Installation Instructions for the E-Z Lifter; http://www.rhtubs.com/coverlifts/EZlifter.htm and http://www.rhtubs.com/coverlifts/EZlifter-instructions.htm ; 9 Pages
		Covermate I and Installation Instructions for the Covermate I; http://www.rhtubs.com/coverlifts/cover-mate1.htm and http://www.rhtubs.com/coverlifts/covermate1-%20instructions.htm ; 7 Pages
		Covermate II with Installation Instructions for the Covermate II; http://www.rhtubs.com/coverlifts/cover-mate2.htm and http://www.rhtubs.com/coverlifts/covermate2-instructions.htm ; 10 Pages.
		Covermate III with Installation Instructions for the Covermate III; http://www.rhtubs.com/coverlifts/cover-mate3.htm and http://www.rhtubs.com/coverlifts/covermate3-instructions.htm ; 7 Pages
		HotSpring Portable Spas, Virtual Showroom, http://www.hotspring.com/Virtual/accessories.html , http://www.hotspring.com/Virtual/jpgs/glidersite_full.jpg , http://www.hotspring.com/Built/jpgs/reg_cover_closed.jpg , and http://www.hotspring.com/Virtual/jpgs/uprite.jpg , 5 Pages.
		FRANZ, Hettich K.G., Germany, The Complete Häfele, Swing-Up Fittings, July 1998, pp. 5.30 - 5.31.s
		SANDERFOOT, Alan E, Rising to the Occasion, AQUA Magazine, June 1996
		Tubcap by CEnTech Corporation (8 pages)

VDW PAS576036.1-*-07/23/04 10:57 AM

EXAMINER SIGNATURE		DATE CONSIDERED	
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.pto.gov or MPEP 901.4. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English Language Translation is attached.			